

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - MRN TO READ 7637 VICE 00000

PASS: USDA FOR SECY BERGLAND AND R.W. PHILLIPS, FAS;

EUR FOR HARTMANN, EB FOR KATZ

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, OECD

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MINISTERIAL MEETING OF OECD

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

REFS: (A) C(77)12, (B) STATE 055985, (C) OECD PARIS

7003

1. SUMMARY. COUNCIL DISCUSSION MARCH 14 ON PROPOSED
MINISTERIAL MEETING OF OECD AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
REVEALED GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO THE HOLDING
OF SUCH A MEETING IN DUE COURSE, BUT THAT FURTHER
PRECISION OF THE AGENDA SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN THIS
WEEK'S AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING, AFTER WHICH THE
ISSUE COULD BE TAKEN UP AGAIN AT THE NEXT COUNCIL

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MEETING ON MARCH 31. TIMING QUESTION WAS UNDECIDED
WITH SUGGESTED DATE RANGING FROM OCTOBER 1977 TO THE
END OF 1978. U.S. PERM REP GAVE OUR POSITION PER
REF A. NO ONE SPOKE IN OPPOSITION TO THE MEETING
AND COUNCIL ADOPTED DRAFT ENTRY REF A. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARIAT'S DIRECTOR FOR AGRICULTURE (SIMANTOV)

SUMMARIZED REF A. U.K. DEL (GALLAGHER) SPEAKING FOR EC STATED THAT COMMUNITY AGREED TO PROPOSAL IN PRINCIPLE, BUT HAD NOT AGREED ON DATES. HE SUGGESTED A VARIETY OF DATES RANGING FROM OCTOBER 1977 AND END OF 1978. FINAL COMMUNITY DECISION DEPENDS ON A MORE PRECISE DEFINITION OF THE AGENDA OUTLINED IN OECD DOCUMENT (REF A); THAT COMMUNITY EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION FURTHER IN COUNCIL AFTER AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS THIS WEEK.

3. FINLAND, NEW ZEALAND, SPAIN, AUSTRALIA, YUGOSLAVIA, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND AND TURKEY ALL AGREED TO PROPOSAL INCLUDING ITS SUBSTANCE, APPROXIMATE DATE, AND PROVISION FOR POSTPONEMENT OF FINAL DECISION UNTIL COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE HAS REACHED ITS CONCLUSIONS LATER THIS WEEK. ON DATES, AS EXPECTED, NEW ZEALAND FAVORED LAST WEEK OF OCTOBER, AUSTRALIA FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER (SEE PARA. 10 OF REF C). TURKEY FAVORED LATE OCTOBER (BECAUSE OF EARLIER POLITICAL CAMPAIGN). OTHERS WHO SPOKE AGREED WITH PROPOSED DATE OF OCTOBER 6-7, 1977.

4. U.S. DEL STATED U.S. POSITION AS PER REF B. JAPAN REMAINED SILENT. (BASED ON PRIVATE CONVERSATION BETWEEN AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES AFTER MEETING, MISSION EXPECTS JAPAN TO ENDORSE PROPOSAL DURING DISCUSSION IN COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE.)

5. CHAIR CONCLUDED THAT COUNCIL COULD AGREE ON ENTRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF PROPOSAL IN ITS MINUTES AS PER PARA 8 OF REF A. HE EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT AGENDA OF MINISTERIAL MEETING SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TOO MUCH AND ADDED THAT COUNCIL WOULD DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL FURTHER AT ITS NEXT SESSION AFTER COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE MEETING THIS WEEK.

6. IN VIEW OF GENERAL SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR A MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE; ALTHOUGH TIMING IS NOT SETTLED AND THERE IS A CALL FOR A MORE PRECISE AGENDA, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED U.S. DEL WILL PARTICIPATE IN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION THIS WEEK ON THE BASIS THAT MOST OTHER MEMBER GOVERNMENTS SUPPORT A MEETING AND THEY BELIEVE THAT IF WELL PREPARED IT WOULD HAVE POSITIVE RESULTS. GUIDANCE SHOULD REACH PARIS BY OPENING OF BUSINESS THURSDAY, MARCH 17.
TURNER

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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